

**SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR AUTOMATIC AND ADAPTIVE USE OF  
ACTIVE NETWORK PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES  
TO FIND THE FASTEST SOURCE**

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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Systems and methods are provided through which automatic and adaptive use of active network performance measurement techniques identifies a fastest  
10 download source. Before a download source is selected, empirical measurements of the download speed are performed. For small files, the first source to acknowledge an open socket connection is used as an indication of the fastest download source. For large files, a download test is performed as the empirical measurement to determine the fastest download source.

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